

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 RSR-01 ADP-00 OIC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 SCI-06

CEQ-02 EPA-04 DOTE-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 L-03 H-03 SS-15 NSC-10 ACDA-19 PM-07 /189 W

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R 071727Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3164

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 09082

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, IMCO, SENV, PFOR

SUBJECT: IMCO: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE

POLLUTION: OFFICERS

REF: LONDON 4525

SUMMARY: THIS REPORT SURVEYS NUMBER OF POSSIBLE CANDI-  
DATES FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, WITH EMPHASIS ON  
PROSPECTS FOR A CANDIDATE FROM A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. END  
SUMMARY.

1. WE HAVE AGAIN BEEN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE CONFERENCE  
BUREAU INFORMALLY WITH IMCO SECRETARIAT MEMBERS AND WITH  
DELEGATES TO RECENT AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON MARINE  
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND OFFER BELOW GLEANINGS FROM  
THESE DISCUSSIONS. MOST WITH WHOM WE SPOKE RECOGNIZE  
DESIRABILITY OF HAVING A CONFERENCE PRESIDENT WHO  
REPRESENTS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, BUT THEY ALSO REALIZE  
DIFFICULTY OF FINDING SOMEONE FROM THIRD WORLD QUALIFIED  
IN SUBSTAN OF CONFERENCE SUBJECTS AND AT SAME TIME  
SKILLED IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AND WILLING TO  
SERVE. PARTICULARLY NECESSARY FOR IMCO IMAGE THAT QUAL-  
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IFIED LDC PRESIDENT BE CHOSEN SINCE PERSONS SO FAR PRO-

POSED FOR MOST OTHER CONFERENCE POSTS ARE FROM WESTERN MARITIME COUNTRIES. PRESIDENCY IS OFFICE THAT MAY PROVE TO BE LARGELY HONORIFIC, WITH DUTIES CONFINED LARGELY TO PRESIDING OVER PLENARIES AT OPENING AND CLOSING OF CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, AS PRESIDENT ALSO CHAIRS STEERING COMMITTEE, HIS REAL TEST MAY COME IN THAT FORUM IF CONFERENCE IS A TURBULENT ONE REQUIRING POSSESSION BY CHAIRMAN OF DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL SKILLS AND FORCEFULNESS AND LEADERSHIP QUALITIES.

2. ONE CONTACT SUGGESTED THAT IF ANY ALGERIAN OR AN EGYPTIAN WERE ELECTED PRESIDENT THE CHOICE WOULD REFLECT FAVORABLY ON IMCO SINCE THE PERSON COULD BE LOOKED UPON AS REPRESENTING THE LDC'S IN GENERAL, AFRICA, AND THE ARAB WORLD. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE SENT ABLE DELEGATIONS TO RECENT IMCO MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES BUT IT IS USUALLY DIFFICULT TO GET ADVANCE WORD ON THE NAMES AND STATURE OF DELEGATION MEMBERS IN ORDER TO DETERMINE BEFORE START OF SESSION WHETHER ONE WOULD MEET PRESIDENTIAL STANDARDS.

3. M.L. VILLAMIN, LEGAL ADVISER AND ATTACHE OF PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, LONDON, A VERY FAMILIAR FACE AT IMCO GATHERINGS, HAS RECEIVED FAVORABLE NOTICES AS A PROSPECTIVE PRESIDENT. SEVERAL WITH WHOM WE TALKED BELIEVED MISS VILLAMIN CAPABLE OF HANDLING JOB AND, WITH ASSISTANCE OF SECRETARIAT AND OTHER ADVISERS, OF RUNNING BUSINESS OF CONFERENCE AS CHAIRMAN OF STEERING COMMITTEE. IN ADDITION TO AN UNDOUBTED COMPETENCE, SHE WOULD OF COURSE POSSESS ADVANTAGES OF BEING A REPRESENTATIVE OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND A WOMAN OF CONSIDERABLE CHARM. MISS VILLAMIN HAS BEEN MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY (REFTEL PARAS 7 AND 9) AS POSSIBLE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE IV AND CHAIRMAN OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

4. SOME OBSERVERS SUGGESTED THAT CONFERENCE MIGHT LOOK TO BRAZILIAN DELEGATION TO SUPPLY PRESIDENT. BRAZIL HAS SENT SOME VERY ABLE REPRESENTATIVES TO IMCO MEETINGS AND IMCO-SPONSORED CONFERENCES. O.C. LOBO, AT LAST ACCOUNT MINISTER IN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMBASSADOR G.E. DO NASCIMENTO E SILVA, ALSO LAST KNOWN TO BE IN MINISTRY, ARE TWO NAMES THAT COME TO MIND. DEPARTMENT MAY WANT TO INQUIRE OF BRAZILIA ABOUT PROPOSED COMPOSITION OF BRAZILIAN DELEGATION AND DETERMINE WHETHER WASHINGTON AGENCIES COULD SUPPORT A BRAZILIAN AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.

5. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT BRITISH UNSUCCESSFULLY

ATTEMPTED ENCOURAGE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO PUT FORWARD  
ADMIRAL NINPUNO OF TRANSPORT MINISTRY, DJAKARTA, AS  
CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE OF IMCO SECRETARY GENERAL. BRITISH  
WERE IMPRESSED BY NINPUNO'S QUALITIES OF INTELLIGENCE  
AND LEADERSHIP AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT IF GOI SENDS HIM  
TO LONDON ON INDONESIAN DELEGATION HE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE

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R 071727Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3165

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CONFERENCE PRESIDENT. H. UMAR, INDONESIAN MARITIME  
COMMISSIONER IN THE HAGUE, WHO WAS INDONESIAN REPRESENTATIVE  
TO IMCO ASSEMBLY IN OCTOBER 1971 AND WHO HAS  
ATTENDED OTHER IMCO SESSIONS, IS ANOTHER POSSIBLE  
CANDIDATE FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.

6. POSSIBLE THAT SHOTARO TAKAHASHI, MINISTER OF JAPANESE  
EMBASSY LONDON, MAY HEAD HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO  
CONFERENCE AND IF SO WE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING  
HIM FOR PRESIDENT IN ABSENCE OF QUALIFIED LDC CANDIDATE.  
FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION WE BELIEVE THAT TAKAHASHI WOULD  
PERFORM WELL BOTH AS PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF STEERING  
COMMITTEE. HE HEADED JAPANESE DELEGATION TO INTER-  
GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON THE CONVENTION ON THE DUMPING  
OF WASTES AT SEA, LONDON, OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1972, AND

MEMBERS OF US DEL TO THAT CONFERENCE WILL RECALL HIM AS FRIENDLY COLLEAGUE BUT FIRM ADVOCATE OF JAPANESE POSITIONS. TAKAHASHI MAY ALSO BE REMEMBERED AS HEAD OF JAPANESE DELS TO COLREGS CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 1972, AND TO PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE MARINE POLLUTION CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY-MARCH 1973. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT PAR-

TICIPATE ACTIVELY IN DEBATE IN THESE SESSIONS HE DID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOME QUIET WORK IN CORRIDORS. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT. SELECTION OF TAKAHASHI WOULD GIVE TO JAPANESE RECOGNITION IN IMCO MEETINGS THAT HAS SO FAR ELUDED THEM. A JAPANESE MAY BE OPEN TO SOME OF SAME CRITICISMS THAT WOULD BE LEVELLED AT ANY WESTERN MARITIME COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSED AS PRESIDENT, BUT TAKAHASHI WOULD AT LEAST HAVE MERIT OF AN ACCEPTABLE GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN. IF HE DOES ATTEND CONFERENCE AND IS WILLING TO ACCEPT POSITION HE MIGHT BE HELD IN RESERVE AS COMPROMISE CANDIDATE.

7. AS TO CHAIRMEN OF PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES, OUR DISCUSSIONS ELICITED LITTLE BEYOND WHAT IS REPORTED IN REFTEL. HOWEVER, (PARA 7) BROCH OF NORWAY ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL NOT ATTEND CONFERENCE AND ATTENDANCE OF MASLOV OF USSR UNCERTAIN. IF MASLOV DOES NOT ATTEND OR IS NOT CHOSEN AS CHAIRMAN, PROBLEM OF PROVIDING PRINCIPAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP FOR SOCIALIST COUNTRY WILL ARISE. ON QUESTION OF LACK OF LDC CANDIDATES AS PROSPECTIVE CHAIRMEN OF THESE COMMITTEES, ONE CONTACT SUGGESTED THAT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN SHOULD BE SELECTED FROM AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRY DELEGATIONS AND VICE CHAIRMEN FROM AMONG EXPERTS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY DELEGATIONS, WITH LATTER TAKING OVER DE FACTO RUNNING OF COMMITTEE BUSINESS. THIS IS A SOLUTION THAT WE THINK WOULD NOT COMMEND ITSELF TO THOSE WHO HAVE LABORED SO LONG TO MAKE MARINE POLLUTION CONFERENCE A SUCCESS.

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